Prescribed Therapeutic Diets

909.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that inmates who require prescribed therapeutic diets as a result of a diagnosed medical condition are provided with nutritionally balanced therapeutic meals that are medically approved and meet nutritional and safety standards.

909.2 POLICY

The contract medical provider, in consultation with the food services manager, shall:

(a) Develop written procedures that identify individuals who are authorized to prescribe a therapeutic diet.

(b) The therapeutic diets utilized by this facility shall be planned, prepared and served with consultation from a registered dietitian.

(c) The Chief Deputy of Corrections or designee and the contract medical provider shall ensure that the therapeutic diet manual, which includes sample menus of therapeutic diets, shall be available in both the health services and food services work areas for reference and information. A registered dietitian shall review, and the contract medical provider should approve, any therapeutic diet order..

Pregnant or lactating women shall be provided a balanced, nutritious diet approved for pregnant women by the contract medical provider..

909.3 STAFF COMMUNICATION/COORDINATION

Staff will compile a daily list of all inmates who are prescribed therapeutic diets. The list should contain the following information:

(a) Inmate’s name

(b) Housing location where the meals will be delivered

(c) Inmate's therapeutic diet type

(d) Special remarks or instructions

Any time inmates are assigned to a different housing area, correctional staff must notify the food services personnel immediately.

909.4 PREPARATION AND DELIVERY OF MEALS

The food services manager or the authorized designee is responsible for reviewing the therapeutic diet lists counting the number and type of therapeutic meals to be served and preparing the food according to the therapeutic menu designed by the registered dietitian.

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Therapeutic diets may include snacks and oral supplements. Snacks and supplements should be distributed with regularly scheduled meal service or may be distributed with inmate medications. Individual labels or written documents containing the following information should be prepared by the kitchen, clearly identifying each meal and any included snacks:

(a) Inmate’s name

(b) Housing location where the meals will be delivered

(c) Inmate’s therapeutic diet type

(d) A list of items provided for the meal

The custody staff responsible for meal distribution shall ensure that any inmate who has been prescribed a therapeutic meal receives the prescribed therapeutic meal..

Unless a therapeutic diet was prescribed with a specific end date, only the contract medical provider or the authorized designee may order that a therapeutic diet be discontinued.

Inmates who are receiving therapeutic diets must receive clearance from the contract medical provider before he/she may receive a religious or disciplinary diet.

If prescribed by the contract medical provider, supplemental food shall be served to inmates more frequently than the regularly scheduled meals. An inmate who misses a regularly scheduled meal shall receive his/her prescribed meal.

909.5 THERAPEUTIC AND RELIGIOUS MEAL RECORDS

All information regarding a therapeutic diet is part of an inmate’s medical record and is therefore subject to state and federal privacy laws concerning medical records. All meal records shall be retained in accordance with established retention schedules and applicable statutory regulations (WAC 44-14-03005).

Inmates receiving prescribed Therapeutic diet meals are made aware and records are kept in medical. Religious meals authorization forms are signed by the inmate acknowledging rules

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